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Academic Policy Advisory Committee meeting minutes, November 5, 1979

Moorhead State University

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Minutes of the Academic Policy Advisory Council
Monday, November 5, 1979, 4:00 p.m., Owens A

Members Present: W. Jones, Chairperson; R. Chang-Yit, D. Corrick, R. Dahlke,
D. Gasal, D. Huebner, R. Jones, Margaret Moore, Molly Moore,
A. Mudgett, D. Nelson, N. Parlin, R. Szeitz, W. Treumann,
W. Wesley, N. Whyatt, F. Zahroon

Report from General Studies Subcommittee

N. Whyatt moved, Molly Moore seconded, to remove the general studies recommendations from the table. Motion to remove from table carried. N. Whyatt moved, R. Szeitz seconded, to amend recommendation 9c to read as follows: The course should be a good representative of the characteristic subject matter, methodology and overall academic approach of the discipline concerned. Motion to amend carried.

Motion to approve the nine recommendations as amended at APAC meetings carried.
The approved recommendations are listed below:

Recommendation 1: We propose to call general studies LIBERAL ARTS since that is a more positive designation and better reflects what we are trying to do.

Recommendation 2: Drop Plan B of the present program.

Recommendation 3: The minimum number of credits required for Liberal Arts is 64. These will be distributed as follows:

Division A - Freshman English	One year
Division B - Natural Sciences	At least 10 credits
Division C - Social Sciences	At least 10 credits
Division D - Humanities	At least 10 credits
Division E - Communication and Symbolic Systems	At least 10 credits
Division F - Interdivisional Studies	At least 4 credits in the Junior or Senior year.

Courses in the new division of Interdivisional Studies are especially designed for enrichment of the liberal arts experience. These courses will be team taught by 2 or more faculty members representing at least two different disciplines, one of whom must be a faculty member from a liberal arts division but not both from the same division. History of Science, Area Studies, Topical Term, Future Studies, Environmental Studies, Literature and Society, Science and Politics are examples of such courses. A formal review to evaluate the interdivisional requirement will be made in the Fall of 1986 and the requirement would be continued or dropped based on formal review.

Recommendation 4: Part of the responsibility for selecting courses that meet the Liberal Arts requirements is clearly departmental. Departments will be expected to evaluate their course offerings according to the criteria and present for approval those that they consider make a significant contribution to a liberal arts education. For each course selected, the department should submit a brief description of the course and its principal objectives. Normally this statement need not exceed one page.

Recommendation 5: An APAC Sub-Committee on Liberal Arts will be established to evaluate every course submitted for Liberal Arts approval. After initial implementation a three year cycle will be established for re-evaluation of approval. The committee should have representative membership including faculty, students and administrators. Its membership should be ten; one from each of the five academic divisions, two at large from the liberal arts disciplines, two students and one administrator. It will normally be desirable to maintain three members from one year to the next.

Recommendation 6: Topical courses or seminars must be approved individually but the approval can come the quarter before the first offering.

Recommendation 7: The committee should develop and implement with admissions personnel, an efficient plan for evaluating transfer-student programs.

Recommendation 8: All approved courses will carry a liberal arts designation on both the class schedule and on the student's transcript. The division should also be designated on the transcript and on the schedule.

Recommendation 9a: The approved course would typically come from the following disciplines which have the primary responsibility for the liberal arts offerings:

American Studies	Foreign Languages	Philosophy
Anthropology	Geography	Physics
Art	Geology	Political Science
Astronomy	History	Psychology
Biology	Humanities	Sociology
Chemistry	Mathematics	Speech
Economics	Multicultural Studies	Theatre
English	Music	

Recommendation 9b: The course should present more than a knowledge base. The course must deal with more than technique.

Recommendation 9c: The course should be a good representative of the characteristic subject matter, methodology and overall academic approach of the discipline concerned.

Recommendation 9d: The course should not be a specialized course directed primarily towards career preparation.

Honors Subcommittee Report

There was preliminary discussion on the Honors Subcommittee Report. This will be an agenda item early in the winter quarter.

S. Ferris, Secretary